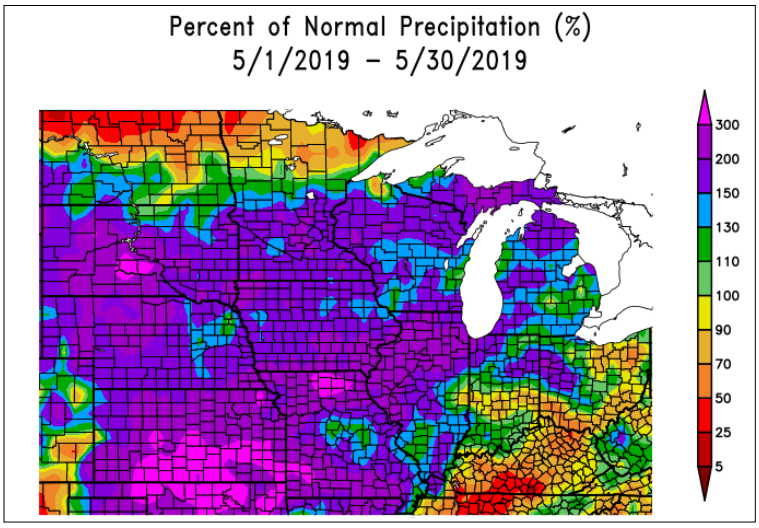
USDA Midwest Climate Hub
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

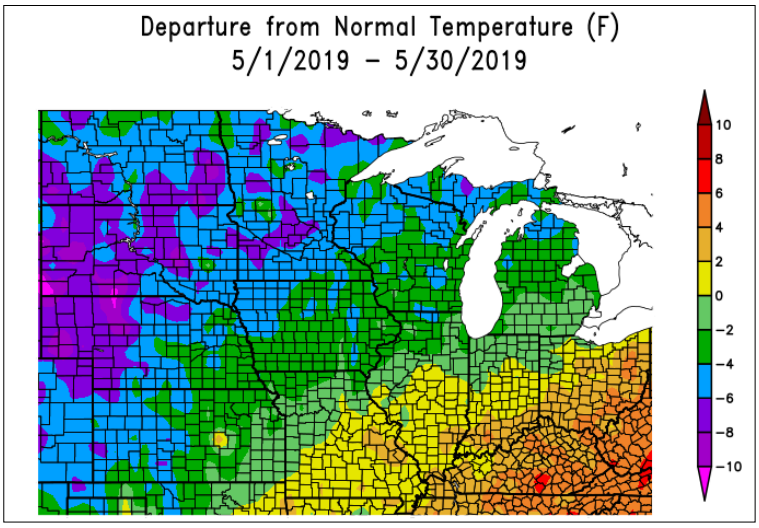
May 31, 2019

Midwest Ag-Focus Climate Outlook

Current Conditions

Cool and wet are the most impressive issues ongoing for the late spring. Cooler-than-average temperatures dominated all but the Ohio Valley and southeast with temperatures as much as 6-10°F below average in the Plains. Precipitation was largely wetter than average except for along the Canadian border and in Kentucky. Several locations in the plains are likely to be top 5 to coldest May on record. Also many stations will be top 10 wettest with Kansas City likely to be the wettest May on record.

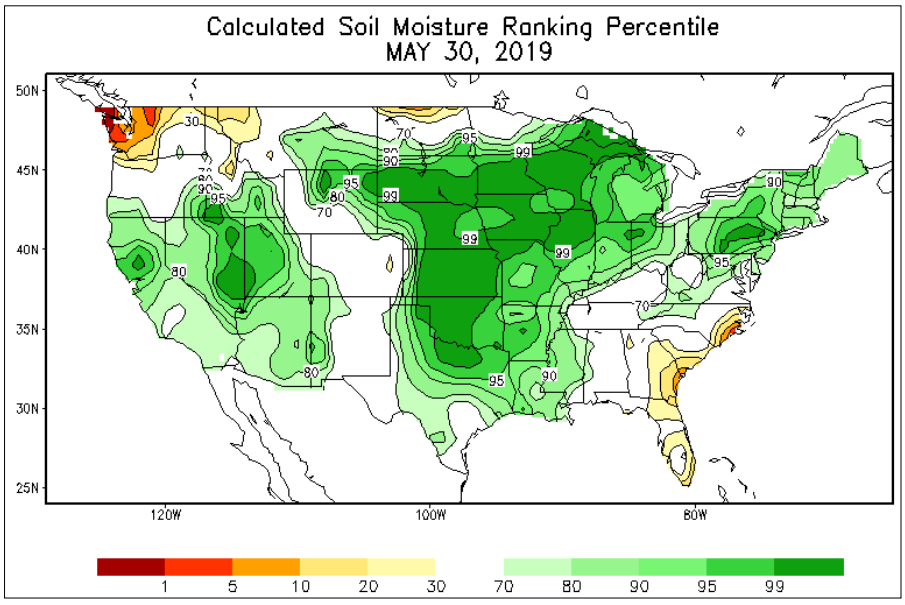




Images from High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC), Online Data Services: ACIS Climate Maps. Generated: 5/31/2019

Impacts

The wet conditions have been very detrimental for agriculture progress throughout the region. Locations with some shorter term deficits (where some drying had occurred) have become wet again. Already wet areas became even wetter. Excessively wet soils, standing water and limited field access have been very common and flooding has taken place in many low-lying areas. Planting has continued to move ahead slowly. But the planting progress and crop development have been far behind averages (see progress maps). (Cont.)

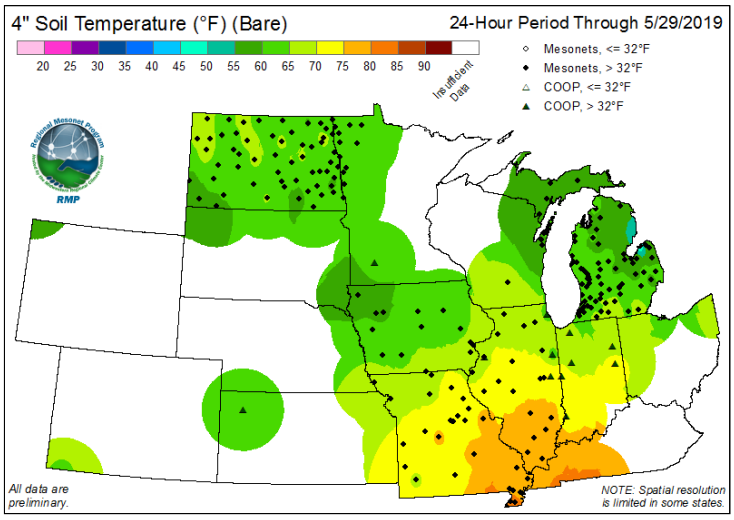


Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile provided by Climate Prediction Center

(Impacts Cont.)

- Corn is the latest planting on record as of May 26 at 58%. This was behind the previous slowest of 67% in 1995.
- Soybeans are similar though in 2nd place to 1995 at 29% compared to the 27% in 1995.

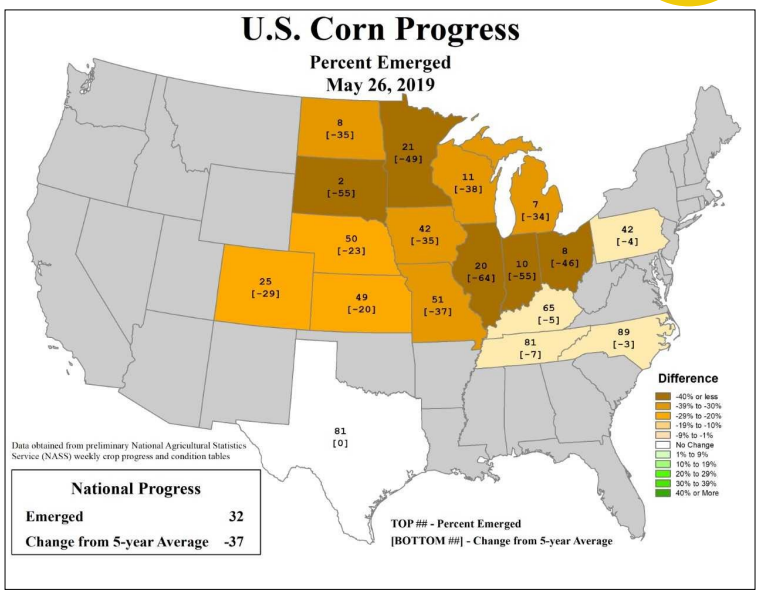
All other row crops are similarly delayed. Winter wheat conditions are still better than average due to the wetness. Disease issues are starting to appear with the wetness.

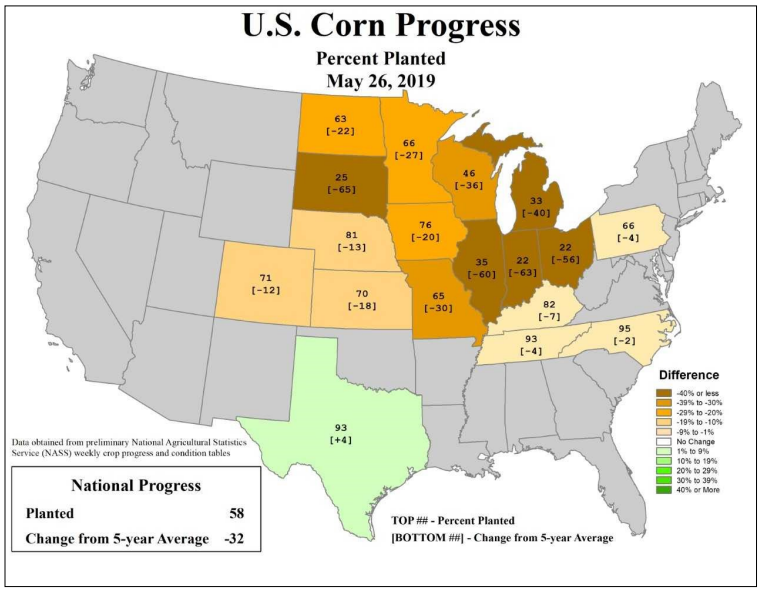


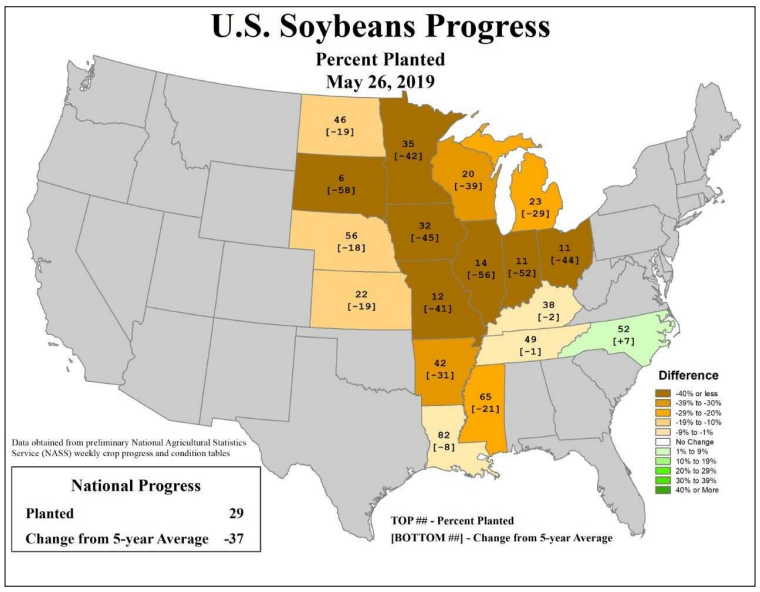
[Regional Mesonet Program, hosted by Midwest Regional Climate Center.]

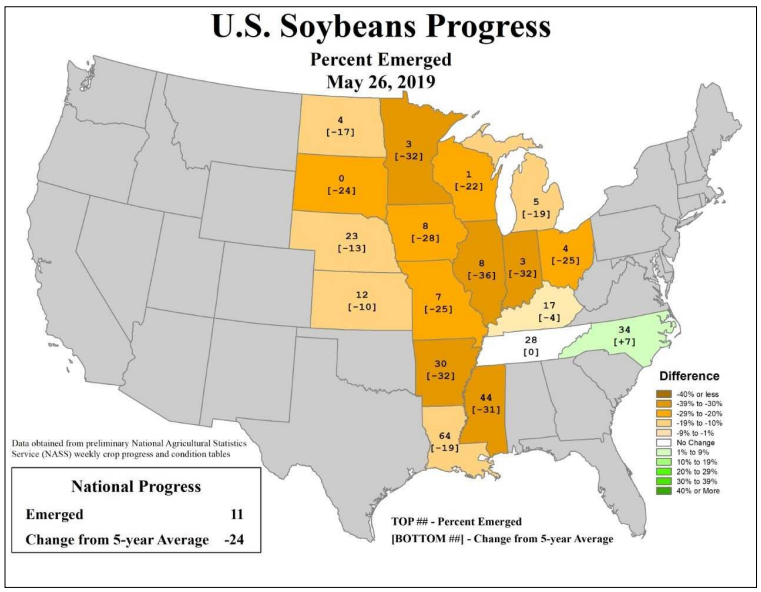
Crop Progress Maps

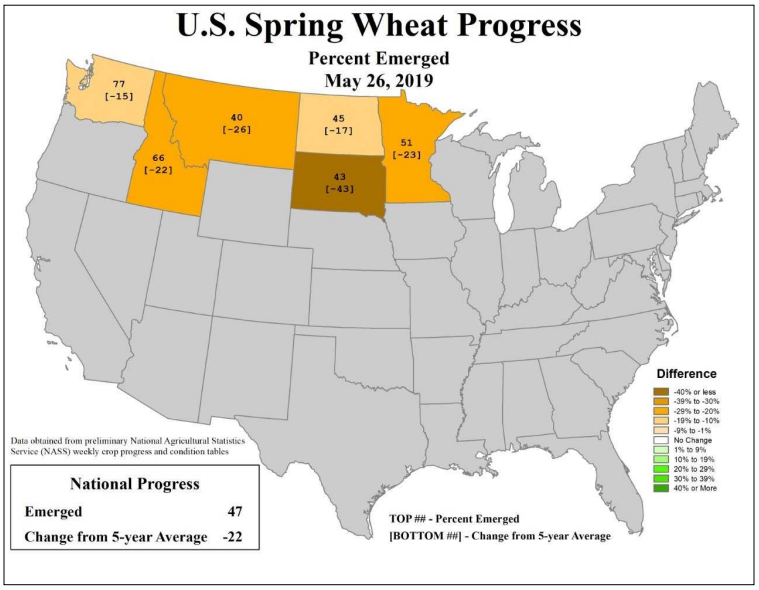
U.S. Agriculture Progress Maps Supplied by Brad Rippey, USDA – World Agricultural Outlook Board.

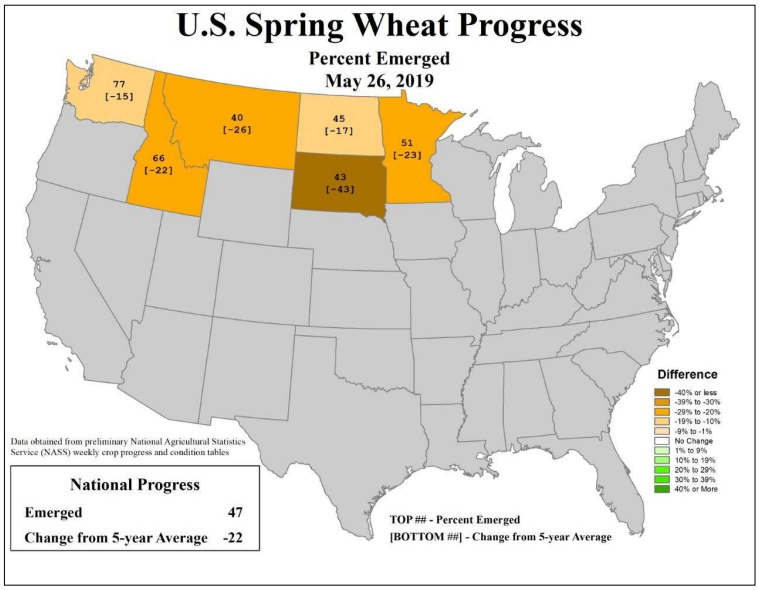




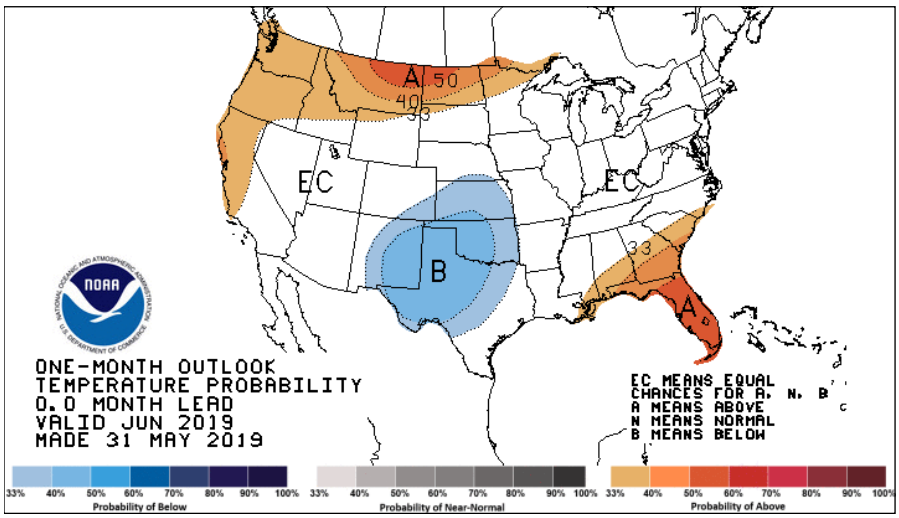






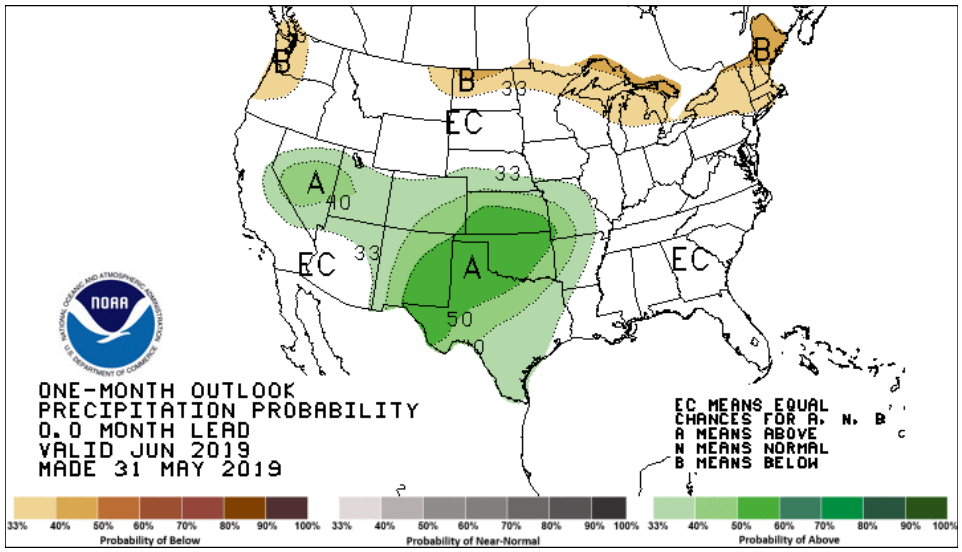


Outlook



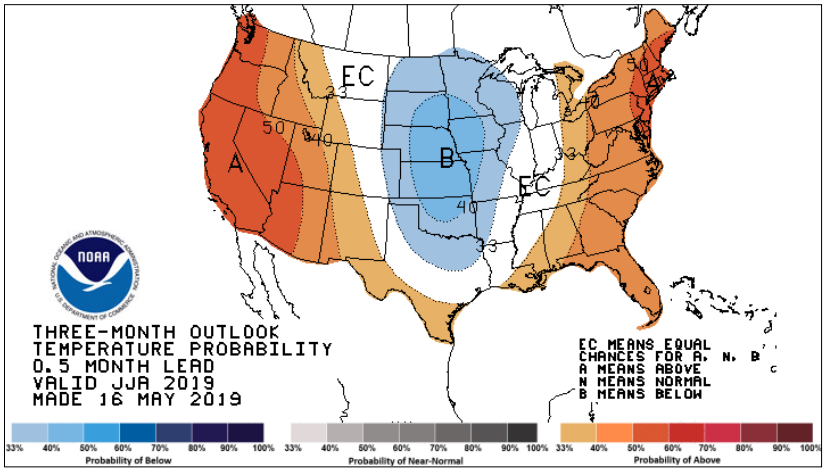
The updated outlooks for June provide a little glimmer of optimism in the region. Most of the area is listed as EC (equal chances) for below/above temperature, except for slight chances of cooler in the southern plains and slight chances of warmer in the northern plains. This would provide some improved temperature conditions for growth of already planted crops.

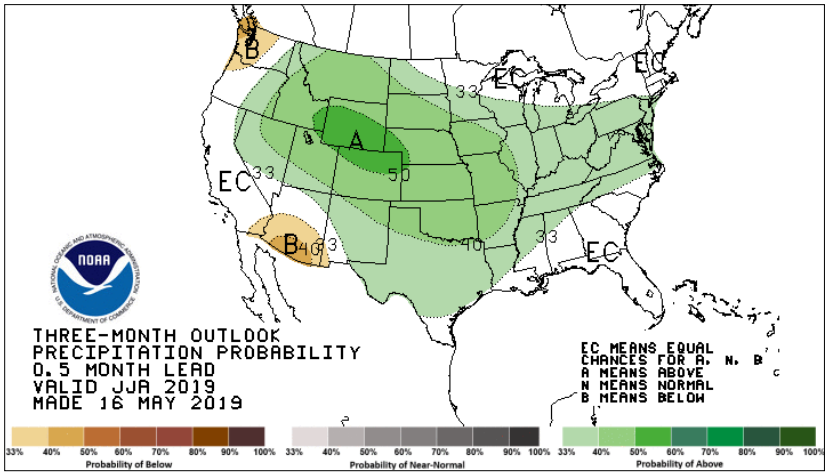
Precipitation also has a large area of EC except for some likely wetness in the plains and slight chances of dryness along the Canadian border. The wetness issues would continue in the plains. But the rest of the area might get a little reprieve to allow some drying, late planting and ability for some growth in already planted crops. (Cont.)



One-Month Outlook

(Outlook Cont.) Issues are still likely to occur with slow development and possibly disease issues from the wetness. Moderate precipitation would likely be a positive issue because crops planted in wet grounds could likely have some limited root systems.

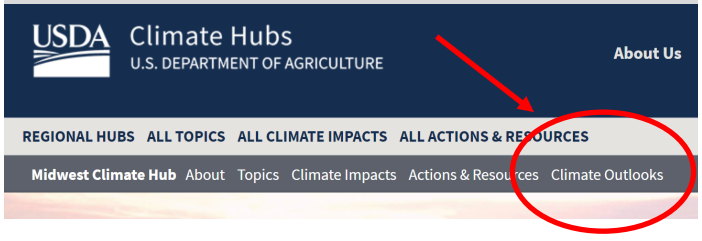




Climate Prediction Center

For More Information on Regional Outlooks:

Visit our website at https://www.climatehubs.oce.usda.gov/hubs/midwest and select **'Climate Outlooks'** in the grey header bar.



Partners and Contributors

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Climate Prediction Center (CPC)
National Weather Service (NWS)
National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI)
National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC)
National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)
Midwestern Regional Climate Center (MRCC)
Midwest State Climatologists
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